

# 200 Passengers in Panic as Ship Blazes at Jersey Pier

FINAL  
EDITION

The



Evening World.

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## FOOD BLOCKADE AGAINST GERMANY PROCLAIMED BY BRITISH TO-NIGHT

### ITALIAN STEAMER AFIRE, 200 PASSENGERS IN PANIC FLEE TO JERSEY CITY PIER

1,400 Bales of Cotton in Hold  
of Re D'Italia Burst Into  
Flames.

FIREBOATS TO RESCUE.

Royal Italian Commissioner  
Leads in Stopping Panic in  
Crowded Steerage.

Fire among the 1,400 bales of cotton and cases of lubricating oil in hold No. 1 of the Lloyd Sabauda steamer Re D'Italia, about to leave her dock at the foot of Grant Street, Jersey City, for Mediterranean ports this afternoon, produced a spectacle which had all of downtown New York pressed against the skyscraper windows.

Two hours after the discovery of the fire it was hardly under control and water from ten lines of hose was being shot into the hold in an effort to drown out the stubborn blaze. The damage cannot be estimated and the time of the steamer's sailing has been set forward indefinitely.

The Re D'Italia, an ancient twin screw steamer of 8,237 tons, was just taking on her last consignment of cotton, as it passed the X-ray inspection of British agents at the wharf, vigilant to detect contraband rubber in the bales.

Most of her cargo of 4,000 bales, lubricating oils and general merchandise was below hatches and the 200 steerage passengers, expecting to sail were distributed between ship and dock when at 2.30 o'clock a laborer noticed smoke coming from hold No. 1 in the forward part of the ship.

As soon as Capt. Anedio Cincotta heard the alarm of fire he sent the crew to the water pressure in the engine room. A policeman ashore sent in a call for the Jersey City department. A New York Central tug, which happened to be in the next dock, moved over and ran a line of hose to reinforce those of the burning steamer.

Panic among the Italian steerage passengers already aboard and those waiting on the dock followed instantly after the alarm of fire. Giovanni Milage, Royal Italian Commissioner, was on the deck examining the prospective emigrants for Italy when the fire was discovered. He ran aboard and helped herd the frightened passengers off the ship to the dock.

Before the first of the engines arrived heavy columns of black smoke were whirling up through the hatchway and the smoky condition of the hold defied the efforts of the firemen to force their way down and discover the seat of the blaze. Ten Pennsylvania and two Erie Railroad tugs joined the New York Central alongside the burning ship and directed their heavy jets of water into the square hatchway.

The report that the Re D'Italia carried ammunition for the Germans in her hold caused a scattering of the crowds on the street outside the pier, which two squads of police reserves did their best to accelerate. But no explosions followed. None was hurt in fighting the blaze.

SAILING TO-DAY.

Re D'Italia, Naples.....12 M.  
Santo, Jacksonville.....1 P. M.  
G. of Savannah, Savannah.....3 P. M.

### ALL ALDERMEN VOTE FOR DREAMLAND PARK BILL

Evening World's Project for Public  
Beach Now Goes to Board  
of Estimate.

The Board of Aldermen this afternoon unanimously adopted the resolution making the site of Dreamland Park, Coney Island, a public beach, with a bathing pavilion on the grounds. The resolution, which was introduced at the suggestion of The Evening World, now goes to the Board of Estimate.

### "VOTES FOR WOMEN" WINS IN NEW JERSEY

Measure Passes Both Houses of the  
Legislature and Goes Before the  
People Next September.

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 16.—The Senate to-day passed the woman suffrage amendment to the State Constitution, 17 to 4.

The House passed the resolution two weeks ago, and both Houses having acted favorably on the resolution last year, the question will be submitted to the voters for acceptance or rejection in September next.

### SENATORS CLASH OVER "UNTRUTHFUL" RETORT.

Clark Challenges Statement of  
Reed in Ship Bill Fight and  
Clinch Threatened.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Physical force was threatened on the floor of the Senate this afternoon when Senator Clark of Wyoming challenged the truthfulness of a statement by Senator Reed of Missouri.

"I call the Senator from Wyoming to order and if he doesn't come to order I'll bring him to order," shouted Reed, advancing threateningly toward Clark.

Reed had just charged that the agreement between the Republicans and the seven bolting Democrats virtually amounted to a caucus as binding and reprehensible in every way as any held by the Democrats.

"I challenge the truthfulness of that statement," said Clark. Cummins, who had the floor, attacking caucus rule, smoothed out the difficulty.

### What a Contrast!

One of the great crimes of the European war is the devastation of homes. Castles and humble dwellings alike have crumbled before the shot and shell. But how fortunate New Yorkers are who have even more than a sufficient number of houses, furnished rooms, apartments, &c., in which to reside.

4,535  
WORLD "TO LET" ADS. LAST WEEK—  
2,415

More Than the Herald, Times, Sun, Tribune and Free Press ADDED TOGETHER.

If you are not now renting a residential or business place that answers your every requirement, for goodness' sake, look for your health and comfort's sake.

Read and Profit by World  
"To Let" Ads. To-Day!

### TOO CURIOUS, SHE HAD TO LEAVE GERMANY.



Miss Wilson Freed From Arrest  
Through Gerard, but Forced  
to Quit Country.

BERLIN (via London), Feb. 16.—Miss Carolyn Wilson, of Beverly, Mass., arrested here several months on suspicion of espionage, has been released through the efforts of American Ambassador James W. Gerard, who interceded vigorously in her behalf. She came to Berlin as the correspondent of a Chicago paper, and was taken into custody, it was alleged, because she displayed indiscreet curiosity concerning naval affairs, gun calibers and other matters. Miss Wilson formerly was a resident of Berlin, and was widely known in the American colony. Her release was granted only upon condition that she leave Germany immediately.

BEVERLY, Mass., Feb. 16.—Miss Carolyn Wilson, the newspaper correspondent who was released from custody in Berlin yesterday after being detained on a charge of espionage, is a daughter of Joseph A. Wilson of this city. Miss Wilson is twenty-nine years old and a graduate of the local high school. She left here a year and a half ago to join the staff of a Chicago newspaper.

### POLICEMAN AND FIREMAN SAVE MANY AT BLAZE

Families in Big Tenement in Mott  
Street Driven Out by  
Smoke.

Burning casks of oil in Flaseo Brothers' grocery on the first floor at No. 228 Mott Street, a five-story tenement, sent so much heavy smoke through the building at 2 o'clock this morning that the tenants saved themselves from suffocation only by a frantic dash from the building.

Men from Truck Company No. 9, around the corner in Elizabeth Street, lowered a drop ladder so those on the fire-escape could pass to the ground. Patrolmen Tergrino and Carravetta went through the building and helped the tenants, who made for the roof. Carravetta found John Santo Antonio, two and a half years old, nearly suffocated in his crib on the third floor rear and carried him to the roof. The blaze was confined to the grocery on the first floor and did about \$2,000 damage.

### WHEAT AGAIN KETING.

May Goes to \$1.63 3-4 on Heavy Export Demand in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Feb. 16.—Heavy export demand to-day sent wheat up. The market opened with May at \$1.61 1-2, which was an over-night advance of 2 cents per bushel. Within a short time the option rose to \$1.63 3-4. July wheat opened at \$1.55 1-8, a gain since yesterday's close of 1-8 cents, and later went to \$1.57 1-4.

### "SURE I TANGO," SAYS MAYOR; "IT'S GOOD FOR HEALTH"

"Those Who Criticise Me  
Would Have Better Dispositions  
if They Danced Too."

ANSWER TO PREACHER.

Defends "Outward Decency"  
Police Policy of Handling  
Sunday Saloons.

Mayor John Purroy Mitchel, who is six feet something in height, weighs about 155 pounds and is rated one of the best modern dancers in all of Manhattan, to-day snappily answered the Rev. James V. Chalmers, Vicar of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity. In doing so the Mayor defended the tango and other up-to-date versions of the terpsichorean art and also took a fling at prohibition.

The Rev. Mr. Chalmers, in addressing the Methodist Ministers' Association yesterday, is quoted as having said this of the Mayor: "He has time to tango until 3 in the morning, but could not find time to take up the question of enforcing the saloon Sunday closing law."

The Mayor's eyes flashed as he read the criticism in his office in the City Hall to-day. Then he laughed heartily.

"Yes, I dance sometimes," said the Mayor, "and if those who criticize me would do the same thing their dispositions would be greatly improved."

The Mayor added that dancing was a healthful exercise and an excellent form of recreation. He would take issue immediately with any one who sought to criticize him for snatching a little pleasure at night after an arduous day at the City Hall.

Replying to the statement from the Rev. Mr. Chalmers that he intended seeing a perfectly good lawyer and learning if the Mayor could not be indicted for "not enforcing the Sunday Closing Law governing saloons," the Mayor said:

"The gentlemen who are behind the Sunday closing movement are perfectly well intentioned men. They evidently believe that all evil flows from drink. They honestly think that if the sale of drink were to be stopped all forms of human evil would cease—that we would reach a sort of a millennium. Of course, I do not agree with them. I believe that this class of good citizens is not in the majority."

"My impression is that the first duty of the police is to put down violence, to preserve the peace. There is less drunkenness on Sunday now than there was a few years ago. We are following the policy laid down by the late Mayor Gaynor, who strove to enforce outward order and decency; that is, by having the interior of saloons exposed to view."

"There is nothing new in the saloon question of the Sunday closing of debauch the police department as of yore. A policeman cannot go into a saloon now unless there is a complaint or he has a warrant. Such a plan not only protects the saloon-keeper, but keeps clean the hands of the police."

The Mayor showed that he thought the saloon question is being well handled by Police Commissioner Woods and that he does not propose taking any notice of the Rev. Mr. Chalmers, unless specific complaints are made.

### STEAMSHIPS DUE TO-DAY.

Saratoga, Havana.....10 A. M.  
Morro Castle, Vera Cruz.....11 A. M.

### BANDIT WHO TRIED TO ROB CARUSO IS SLAIN BY GUNMEN

Enemies Shoot Down Antonio  
Cincotta, Terror of Brook-  
lyn, and Then Escape.

POLICE ARE BAFFLED.

Victim Was Awaiting Trial for  
Attempting to Black  
Hand Tenor.

The career of the most picturesque bandit in Brooklyn came to an abrupt and fitting close early to-day when two men stepped out of a doorway at No. 25 Union Street, planted three bullets in the abdomen of Antonio Cincotta, and escaped through a tenement house.

Cincotta died on the spot, after saying he did not know his assailants. He was shot just one block away from No. 88 Union Street, where, in May, 1904, he and three others shot and killed a man named Serro, who had testified against a fellow countryman in a murder trial in Boston and had fled to Brooklyn with a mistaken idea that he could elude the Mafia.

Cincotta was one of two men arrested four years ago for trying to extort \$5,000 from Enrico Caruso, the tenor. Twice arrested for murder and once for felonious assault, he escaped because of the sinister influence he wielded in the Brooklyn Italian colony. When it came to the final test, no witness would ever identify Cincotta.

A natural leader of men, Cincotta became a power in the section of Brooklyn where crimes are hatched. For more than twenty-five years he was under police surveillance, yet he spent very little time in jail. When the vengeance of some of his victims finally reached him, he was at liberty under bond, awaiting a second trial on the charge of trying to molest Caruso.

Of recent years he confined himself largely to moving picture houses. Italians going into the moving picture business, especially in the downtown Brooklyn Italian colony, were often forced to pay tribute to Cincotta, the police say.

Cincotta lived with his wife and family at No. 221 Fifty-ninth Street, Bay Ridge.

Enrico Caruso complained to the police in March, 1910, that he had been receiving Black Hand letters demanding \$5,000. He had been directed to place the money under a stoop in Van Brunt Street, near Beckett Street. The detectives advised him to advertise, as he had been directed, that the money would be placed. Caruso's valet was sent to Brooklyn with a satchel, which he placed under the designated stoop.

After a long wait Cincotta and Antonio Misiani appeared and were arrested.

### ITALY MUST MOBILIZE AT ONCE OR FACE REVOLT, GARIBOLDI DECLARES.

LONDON, Feb. 16 (Associated Press).—The prophecy that Italy would mobilize her army within a fortnight was made here to-day by Ricciotti Garibaldi, the Italian patriot.

He said that unless the Italian Government decided to participate in the war, there would be a revolution.

### KING ALBERT FLIES OVER GERMAN LINES.



Belgian Monarch Fired at Repeatedly, but Remains Headquarters  
Safety.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 16 (United Press).—A special despatch received here to-day says that King Albert of Belgium on Saturday participated in an aerial reconnaissance over the German lines. Leaving his headquarters in a Belgian biplane, he was taken directly across the chain German line of trenches.

For an hour his machine was piloted over the German positions, sometimes dropping close to them. After an hour's flight he descended at his headquarters.

During the time he was up he was always under fire and several times he was exposed to a sharp German fusillade.

### REFUSES \$450,000 WAR CONTRACT ON MORAL GROUNDS

Steel Company in Pittsburgh  
Rejects British Offer, for  
"Humanitarian Reasons."

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 16.—Because of "humanitarian reasons," the Electric Steel Company of this city, asked by the Pittsburgh Foreign Trade Commission to bid on a contract to furnish part of an order of 1,000,000 drop forge shells valued at \$4,000,000 wanted by the British Government, has declined to make an estimate. Attached to the blue prints returned to the commission by the company was a note which read:

"For humanitarian reasons, this company finds itself obliged to refuse to consider the contract."

The value of the contract offered to the company was estimated at \$450,000.

Charles E. Bryson, President and General Manager of the Electric Steel, later in the day said:

"Our company refused to consider this contract because we don't think warring nations should be encouraged. As long as they are able to purchase supplies of this nature the war will continue."

"We are looking for business, but we would not consider the furnishing of ammunition of war to any country that is engaged in conflict. I wish to state in making this refusal that we are not opposed to England or her allies, nor to Germany and her allies. We don't desire to make money from instruments that are used to slaughter people and we think that other companies might do well to consider the matter in the same light."

### BRITISH STRIKE BACK AT ONCE AT KAISER'S SHIP RAID THREAT

Neutral Ships Will Be Sunk in  
Under Sea Campaign Germany  
Expects—"Beginning of End,"  
English Declare.

### RAIDS WILL BE SLOW, TEUTONS ARE WARNED.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—[Associated Press].—The prohibition against foodstuffs destined for Germany will be formally proclaimed by Great Britain either to-night or to-morrow, according to present expectations, and the Government's retaliatory measures against the threatened German submarine "blockade" will go into immediate effect.

BERLIN, Feb. 16 (By Wireless to Sayville).—The commencement of operations in the war zone is awaited here with the greatest eagerness. It appears likely that it will be some days after Feb. 18 before any news is received.

The Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung says it may be ten or fifteen days before the public is informed on the subject.

The Germania says it is "fairly certain" that neutral ships will be destroyed, but declares that they have had a proper warning.

It warns its readers to wait for official reports based on reports from commanders of submarines.

There are no indications as to the tone of the German note in reply to the American representations, which may be delivered to-day.

### German Chancellor Friendly At Conferences, Gerard Reports

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (Associated Press).—Ambassador Gerard, in Berlin, to-day reported on his informal conferences with the German Chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, and other high German officials since the delivery of the American note warning Germany against submarine attacks on American vessels.

The Ambassador made no mention of any conference with Emperor William.

Throughout the conferences, however, the Ambassador reported he observed a friendly feeling on the part of officials, in contrast to the rather antagonistic utterances of the German press. The Ambassador transmitted some of the editorials.

Officials here continue to decline to discuss the situation. No answer will be made to Count von Bernstorff's note of yesterday until a reply has been received from Berlin to the American note sent through Ambassador Gerard. Hitherto the United States has declared its inability to make protests against the strewing of mines in the North Sea in contravention of international law because the American Government was unable to learn which belligerent was responsible for the act.

The announcement of Germany's intention to strew mines, especially if they are floating and not anchored, may reopen the entire question, it was said by some officials, though the Administration opinion has not developed finally on that phase of this question.

The whole situation resulting from the diplomatic exchanges with Great Britain as well as Germany was taken up by President Wilson to-day with Secretary Bryan and later at a Cabinet meeting.

### Ship Raid Kaiser's Last Stroke, "Beginning of End," Say British

LONDON, Feb. 16 (United Press).—England accepts the announcement of the German submarine blockade, which commences on Thursday, as indicating the "beginning of the end." It is felt that this will be Germany's last great blow. Her Zeppelins having failed to come up to expectations and her fleet being forced to remain impotent behind her closely guarded land fortifications, the last weapon available in her great fleet of submarines.

And the British Admiralty calmly declares that the precautions already taken will nullify any under sea raid that may be attempted.

Not a single official of either army or navy but believes that Germany